or immediately after the arrest be permitted to arrest a female person for lawful reasons at any time of the day or night depending on the circumstances of the case even without the presence of a lady constable.

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994 introduced in Rajya Sabha has *inter alia*, a proposal to add a new sub-section (4) to section 46 Cr. P.C. to prohibit arrest of a women after sunset and before sunrise except in unavoidable circumstances.

Death penalty for rapists

*238. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to provide death as one of the penalties for the offence of rape, is still under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) the Rape Laws have exhaustively been reviewed by the Law Commission of India which has recommended amendments to the Procedural and Penal laws. Death as a sentence for rape has not been recommended. Therefore, the Government has deferred its proposal for amending the Indian Penal Code to provide death as one of penalties for the offence of rape.

The Malimath Committee, which submitted its report on reforming the Criminal Justice System, also expressed themselves against death sentence for the offence of rape.

Scheme for revival of National Textile Corporation mills

†*239. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme worth Rs. 3,383 crores has been worked out for the revival of certain mills of the National Textile Corporation;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.